SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE
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Sheffield TIMES

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Town meeting: May 3
Town election: May 10

Community News for Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA SECOND GENERATION **Special Election Supplement APRIL 2010**

SHEFFIELD'S ELECTION & ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

With Sheffield's annual Town Meeting on Monday, May 3, residents have a chance to participate in a New England tradition and experience American democracy first hand. Only registered voters can vote and speak at the meeting, but all can come and watch. The meeting will take place at the auditorium at Mt. Everett Regional High School at 7pm.

In the Town Election to be held on May 10, there is only one contested race on the ballot. David Pottle is challenging incumbent Susan Young for the one open position as Library Trustee.

Every year, one of the three positions on Sheffield's Board of Selectmen is up for election. This year, it is the seat now held by David Macy, who is not running again. The open seat is being sought by David Smith, Jr., who lost by just a few votes to Rene Wood in 2009.

Other positions to be voted on are Town Moderator, where Bruce Person is again running unopposed. Two positions on the Planning Board are being sought by the incumbents who currently hold those seats, David Smith, Sr., and Maggie Martin.

Profiles and pictures of the candidates, written and compiled by the *Sheffield Times* as a public service, can be found on pages 6 and 7.

Warrant highlights

Much of this year's warrant covers familiar ground. Every year, funds must be appropriated to meet Town needs for the coming fiscal year (Articles 1 and

Continued on page 2

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

To the Constables of the Town of Sheffield in said County of Berkshire,

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the auditorium of the Mount Everett Regional High School on Berkshire School Road in Sheffield on Monday, May 3, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. for the following purposes:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, such sums of money as listed below, and as may be amended, necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2011, or take any other action relative thereto.

Moderator	$204	Police Department	$429,605	American Legion	$500
Selectmen's Office	159,539	Fire Department	42,325	Care of Soldier's Graves	1,400
Board of Assessors	92,280	Inspectional Services	76,800	Ashley Falls Historic Dist Comm	100
Treasurer/Collector	147,572	Fire Hydrants	13,000	Agricultural Commission	250
Town Clerk	55,192	Animal Control	8,600	Interest on Loans	1
Elections & Registration	20,550	Highway Department	557,896	Berkshire County Retirement	174,534
Conservation Commission	7,020	Streetlights	11,750	Worker's Compensation	18,500
Planning Board	11,140	Board of Health	14,570	Unemployment Comp Fund	1
Economic Development Comm	100	Visiting Nurse Association	3,096	Group Health (32B) Insurance	320,000
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,014	Council on Aging	48,894	Employer Medicare	19,500
Town Buildings & Grounds	108,400	Veterans Benefits	17,000	Financial Audit	12,000
Town Report & Communications	6,000	Library	154,937	Insurance & Bonding	69,000
Legal Services	11,500	Historical Commission	100		
Dispatch Services	7,830	Memorial Day	750		

Continued on page 3

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Sheffield

TIMES

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HIGHLIGHTS, continued from page 1

2). For Fiscal Year 2011, which begins June 1, the amounts requested for town departments and expenses and town officers are fairly close to what they were last year, in FY 2010. The largest increase, not surprisingly, is in the cost of health insurance for town employees, which is up $40,000, or 14 percent.

School-related articles

An updated regional school agreement has been proposed and would be ratified in Article 3. The agreement is among the five towns in the Southern Berkshire Regional School District: Alford, Egremont, Monterey, New Marlborough and Sheffield.

The agreement would simplify the allocation of costs by having the shares determined by the state-mandated minimum contribution apply to the entire operating and capital budgets. What that means is that Sheffield would pay about 50 percent of the operating budget, somewhat lower than what it currently pays, and the same share of the capital budget, for which it currently pays about 25 percent. The town's Finance Committee has recommended approval. Currently, it appears the change would basically be a wash.

An informational meeting about the agreement was going to be held after this issue went to press.

This year's operating budget for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District is only slightly larger than last year's, up 0.1 percent.

Sheffield's share (Article 4) for the coming fiscal year (FY 2011) is figured according to the compromise worked out in 2009. This uses two methods to figure each town's contribution, the "alternative" method, based mainly on the number of students each town sends to the school, and the "statutory" method, a formula that takes into account a town's relative ability to pay. Per the compromise agreement, Sheffield's share in FY 2011 is figured 75 percent alternative/25 percent statutory. That share, $5,578,783, is about 2 percent higher than last year's.

The amount requested for vocational education tuition (Article 6) remains the same, and the school capital budget (Article 5) is down nearly 50 percent from last year's, since it's the last year of the loan that was taken out for the new school building and payments are lower.

Town improvements and equipment

The town is asking for $150,000 to build a new highway garage (Article 19). In addition, it's asking $95,000 for a new backhoe (Article 18) and $5,500 for hoses and other equipment for the Fire Dept. (Article 16). The amount requested for firemen's turnout gear and boots (Article 15) is a third less than last year's amount.

The request for technology items for the town—computers, software and such—is also lower than last year's, by 25 percent (Article 21). New this year is a request for $4,500 to preserve Town historical documents in the Town Clerk's office (Article 22). Records go back to the founding of the town, and they are disintegrating. This allocation would start the preservation process.

Business-related items

Article 23 offers Bayer Material Science, parent company of Sheffield Plastics, incentives to remain in Sheffield. It would phase in the taxation of improvements the company makes according to an agreed-upon framework.

The Town is asking to activate the state's lodging tax provision (Article 24) by collecting a 4 percent tax on rooms in bed and breakfasts and other lodgings. (Some other towns in Berkshire County have raised or are voting on whether to raise their lodging tax to 6 percent.) The tax is projected to raise $20,000 to $30,000.

Zoning by-law changes

The Planning Board has suggested that the by-laws be amended so non-conforming uses of property cannot be re-established after two years of abandonment, to be consistent with state law.

The Planning Board has also proposed replacing the current "Flood Hazard Zone" with a "Flood Plain Overlay District" (Article 26), which would allow the Planning Board greater control and flexibility in determining what id built in flood-prone areas.

Another article (Article 27) would give Sheffield a leash law. That would give the Animal Control Officer a clearer way to handle complaints about dogs running loose in town.

TOWN WARRANT, continued from page 1

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of the following elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2011, as required by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws; Moderator, $204; Selectmen, Chairman $2,245; Selectmen, two members at $1,940 each, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Regional Agreement Establishing the Southern Berkshire Regional School District to read in its entirety as set forth in the document titled "Restatement of Regional Agreement Establishing the Southern Berkshire Regional School District" and submitted by the School Committee for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District, which document is posted in the Town Clerk's office and is available for review in the Town Clerk's and Selectmen's offices, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Operating and Transportation Budget for Fiscal Year 2011 and vote to raise and appropriate $5,578,783 to pay the Town's assessed share of that budget under the compromise alternate apportionment formula, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2011 and vote to raise and appropriate $100,080 to pay the Town's assessed share of that budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $55,000 to pay for vocational education tuition in Fiscal Year 2011, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the disposal and management of solid waste, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to accept funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the appointment of members of the Board of Selectmen to any office or position under their supervision at no additional compensation in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 268A, Section 21A of the General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health to employ any of its members, including members who also serve on the Board of Selectmen, as Title 5 Witnesses for Septic Systems Evaluation Tests and Inspections at a rate of $40.00 per inspection, and/or Sanitation (Title 5) Inspector at an annual salary of $510 for Fiscal Year 2011, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate , transfer from Overlay Surplus, and/or transfer from available funds, $71,000 to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws, known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to sell, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, any parcel or parcels of real estate which have been or may be acquired through the foreclosure of tax title, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available Funds $28,053 to pay principal and interest on the bonded indebtedness authorized by Town Meeting vote of January 30, 1995, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $750 to the Emergency Response Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $12,000 to purchase new turnout gear and boots for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $5,500 to purchase new hose, fittings, and nozzles for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $19,600 to compensate firefighters for training, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $95,000 for a new backhoe, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $150,000 for bid documents for a new highway garage, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $15,000 for Town building repairs and improvements to include the Town Hall, Library, and Police Station, or take any other action relative thereto.

Continued on page 4

TOWN WARRANT, continued from page 3

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $7,500 to purchase up to date information technology hardware, software, and services, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds $4,500 to preserve Town historical documents in the Town Clerk's office, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to (a) approve the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement between Bayer Material Science, LLC and the Town of Sheffield, substantially in the form as is on file with the Town Clerk (the "TIF Agreement"), pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 59 of the General Laws, and to confirm the Board of Selectmen's designation of the property at 113 Silver Street and 119 Salisbury Road (Assessors Map 20, Block 2, Lot 22 and 23.6 and Assessors Map 19, Block 2, Lots 20, 21, 26-K, and 27) as an Economic Opportunity Area ("Silver/Salisbury EOA"), and TIF Plan, including designation of a TIF Zone as described in the TIF Plan; (b) authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute the TIF Agreement, and any documents relating thereto, and to take such other actions as are necessary or appropriate to implement those documents; and (c) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to submit an Economic Opportunity Area Application, Tax Increment Financing Plan, and Certified Project Application, and any associated documents to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council, all relating to the project as described in the TIF Agreement to be located in the Silver/Salisbury EOA, TIF Zone, TIF Plan and Certified Project, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 64G, Section 3A of the General Laws which will authorize the collection of a local excise tax upon the transfer of occupancy of any room or rooms in a bed and breakfast establishment, hotel, lodging house or motel by any operator at a rate of four per cent (4%) of the total amount of rent for each such occupancy, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-laws by deleting the following language from Section 5.5 Abandonment or Non-Use after the words...Section 5: "provided that, if the owner of the property on which such nonconforming uses is located files with the Town Clerk, annually, a notice of intent to re-establish such nonconforming uses, such protected status may continue for up to five years after such abandonment or the discontinuance of the nonconforming use", or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-laws by deleting Section 8.2 Flood Hazard Zone in its entirety and replacing therewith the following new Section 8.2 Flood Plain Overlay District or take any other action relative thereto:

8.2 Flood Plain Overlay District

8.2.1 Purpose. The Flood Plain Overlay District (FPOD) has been established to provide that lands in the town subject to seasonal or periodic flooding shall not be used for residential or other purposes in such a manner as to endanger the health or safety of the occupants thereof, or of the public, and to assure the continuation of the natural flow pattern of the watercourses within the town in order to provide adequate and safe floodwater storage capacity to protect persons and property against the hazards of flood inundation. It is further intended to protect, preserve and maintain the water table and water recharge areas within the town so as to preserve present and potential water supplies for the public health and safety of the residents of the town.

8.2.2 Location. The general boundaries of the FPOD are shown on the Sheffield Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), dated September 16, 1981, as Zones A and A-1-30 to indicate the one hundred-year floodplain. The exact boundaries of the district are defined by the flood profiles contained in the Flood Insurance Study, dated September 16, 1981. The floodway boundaries are delineated on the Sheffield Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps (FBFM), dated September 16, 1981, and further defined by the floodway data tables contained in the Flood Insurance Study. These two maps, as well as the accompanying study, are incorporated in this Bylaw by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board, Building Inspector and Board of Health.

8.2.3 Special Permit. Any person desiring to establish any permitted use in a FPOD involving or requiring the erection of new structures and/or alteration or moving of existing structures or dumping, filling, transfer, relocation or excavation of earth materials or storage of materials or equipment shall submit an application for a special permit to the Planning Board, who shall serve as the SPGA for this section, in accordance with the provisions of Section 9.4. Such application shall describe in detail the proposed use of the property and the work to be performed and shall be accompanied by plans as specified therein. In addition to the information required thereby, such plans shall also include boundaries and dimensions of the lot, existing and proposed drainage easements, all existing and proposed fill, existing and proposed sewage disposal facilities, means of access and mean sea level elevation, with contour separation of two feet or less, of the existing and proposed land surface, cellar floor and first floor.

8.2.4 Submittals. The SPGA shall ensure that the applicant provides sufficient information to determine:

1. That the floor level of areas to be occupied by human beings as living or working space shall be at a safe elevation;
2. That furnaces and utilities are protected from the effects of flooding and that the structure will withstand the effects of flooding in accordance with the State Building Code;
3. That the proposed construction, use or change of grade will not obstruct or divert the flood flow, reduce natural water storage or increase stormwater runoff so that water levels on other land are substantially raised or danger from flooding increased;
4. That safe vehicular and pedestrian movement to, over and from the premises is provided in the event of flooding; and
5. That the proposed methods of drainage and sewage disposal are approved by the Board of Health and will not cause pollution or otherwise endanger health in the event of flooding.

8.2.5 Decision. The SPGA may issue a special permit in compliance with all applicable provisions of this Bylaw, for establishment or alteration of a permitted use in a FPOD, provided that the SPGA determines the following. Such findings shall be in addition to the findings required by Section 9.4.

1. The use would otherwise be permitted if such land were not, by operation of this section, in the FPOD; and
2. The use of such land for the proposed purpose will not interfere with the general purpose for which such FPODs have been established.

8.2.6 Conditions. Special permits issued under this section may be subject to such conditions as the SPGA deems necessary in the interests of the public health, safety and welfare. The burden of proving that the proposed use will not endanger the health and safety of the occupants or the public shall rest upon the applicant, who shall provide such engineering, ecological and hydrological data as may be required by the SPGA or any state or federal agency.

8.2.7 Requirements to be Additional to Those in Effect. It shall be understood that all provisions of existing regulations shall remain in force in the FPOD and that the requirements of this section are in addition to those now in force.

8.2.8 Effect. Granting of a special permit under this section by the SPGA does not in any way indicate compliance with the provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act, G.L. c. 131, s. 40, which provides, among other things, that no person shall remove, fill, dredge or alter any swamp, creek, river, stream, pond or lake or any land subject to flooding, except with a written permit from the Conservation Commission.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 63 of the Compilation of By-Laws and Legislation by deleting Section 63-1. Restraint Authorized. and Section 63-2. Enforcement; violations and penalties. in their entirety and replacing therewith the following new Section 63-1. Dogs Required to be Leashed. and Section 63-2 . Enforcement; violations and penalties., or take any other action relative thereto:

Section 63-1. Dogs Required to be Leashed.

A. No owner or keeper of a dog shall permit such dog, whether licensed or unlicensed, to run-at-large within the town. No person shall permit such dog beyond the confines of the property of the owner or keeper unless such dog is on a leash and under physical control of said owner or keeper.

B. This bylaw shall not apply to private property for which the owner or keeper of a dog has permission to have such dog off-leash, provided the dog is under the direct supervision of a person who has the ability to properly control the dog's actions.

C. A dog that is working, hunting or at such events as field trial or training is exempt from this bylaw for the period of time the dog is engaged in the work, hunting or event, provided the dog is under the direct supervision of a person who has the ability to properly control the dog's actions.

D. This bylaw shall not apply to property owned and/or controlled by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts where a separate set of rules and regulations apply.

Section 63-2. Enforcement; violations and penalties.

The Animal Control Officer shall enforce the provisions of this bylaw. Violators of the bylaw shall be fined Fifteen Dollars ($15) for the first offense and Twenty-Five dollars ($25) for the second and each subsequent offense.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to enter into immediate discussions with other Western Massachusetts municipalities with the intent of entering an inter-municipal agreement, by and through the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 4A of the General Laws, for the purpose of establishing a universal, open access, financially self-sustaining communication system for the provision of broadband service, including high-speed internet access, telephone and cable television to the residents, businesses and institutions of these municipalities, or take any action relative thereto.

You are also directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield, qualified to vote in Town elections, to meet in the Town Hall on Depot Square in Sheffield on Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7:00 AM then and there to bring in their votes for the election of the following Town officers: one Moderator for one year; one Selectmen for three years; one Library Trustee for three years; two Planning Board members for three years. All of said officers to be voted for on the official ballots furnished at the polls. The polls will be opened at 7:00 AM and closed at 7:00 PM.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy in seven public places in the Town, not less than seven days before the date of said meeting. Hereof Fail not, and make return of this Warrant to the Town Clerk, with your doings thereon, at or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands and the Seal of the Town of Sheffield this fifteenth day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Ten.

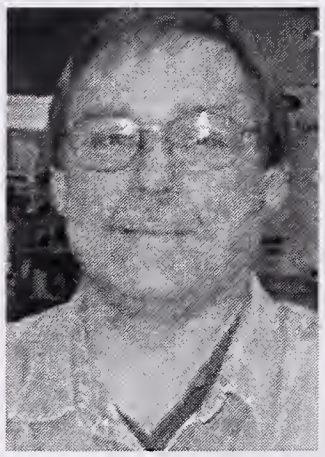
BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

David D. Macy *Julie M. Hannum* *Rene C. Wood*

PROFILES OF CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OFFICES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Term: Three years
Seats open: One

David Smith, Jr.



David Smith, Jr., is running unopposed for Board of Selectmen.

He graduated from Mt. Everett High School, as did his wife, Jeanne. David has four children, Tony, Christina, Elizabeth and Kelly. They were co-owners of the Great Barrington Sears store for 17 years, which they sold in 2009. Prior to that time they owned "Smitty's" next door, for 17 years.

David has been an active member of the Sheffield Kiwanis Club for 18 years, serving at different times as president and currently as president-elect. He is also the Past Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of the New England District of Kiwanis. He notes with great pride that Kiwanis raises $35,000 in scholarships annually for seniors at Mt. Everett and Monument Mountain High Schools and Berkshire School.

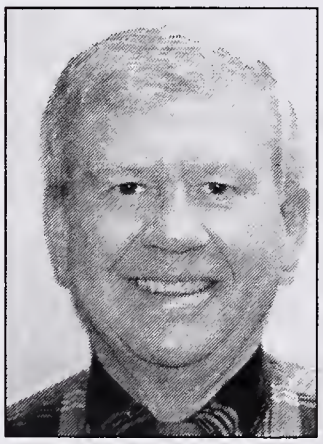
While living in Great Barrington David served two terms on that town's Board of Selectmen, first winning as a write-in candidate. His platform was to bring in the town manager form of government. Since moving to Sheffield, he has served eight years on the Finance Committee, seven of them as vice chairman. He is a registered Republican.

David is running for the Board of Selectmen because he wants to give back to his community what they have already given to him. He is excited by the opportunity to serve and he hopes to encourage others to volunteer for town government as well.

David describes himself as "pro-business." He says he is all for the "small self-employed guy." He is particularly proud of those with an entrepreneurial spirit and wants to help create an environment where such men and women might flourish. Alongside that, he wants to do all he can to keep Sheffield affordable. He wants to help direct a government that is as "tight and cost effective as possible."

TOWN MODERATOR
Term: One year
Seats open: One

Bruce Person



Bruce Person has served as Sheffield's Town Moderator for the last 21 years and is running unopposed. Born in Meriden, CT, Bruce graduated from the University of Connecticut at Storrs in 1965 and Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in 1969. He came to Sheffield in 1971 after serving in the Air Force for two years and has lived here ever since. He practiced dentistry in Great Barrington for 33 years and is now retired. He has two adult sons and four grandchildren.

He is a registered Republican.

In addition to serving as Moderator, Bruce is also Town Constable, a former chairman of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee and trustee of Berkshire School. He was also very involved with the Great Barrington Rotary Club and chairman of their Scholarship Assistance Fund.

Bruce looks forward to the Town's Annual Meeting. He attempts to moderate it "in a non-confrontational way," respecting all opinions. "It is my aim," he said, "that everyone goes home friends."

Sheffield's Annual Town Meeting
Mon., May 3, 7pm
Mt. Everett Regional High School

Town Election
Mon., May 10, 9am to 7pm
Sheffield Town Hall

PLANNING BOARD
Term: Three years
Seats open: Two

David Smith, Sr.

David Smith, Sr., is running unopposed for the Planning Board he currently holds. Since his semi-retirement, David has become increasingly involved in town organizations. For the past seven years he has been active in the Kiwanis Club, where he is in charge of the food trailer. Through the Club, he cooks at Breaking Bread, a food kitchen in Sheffield, every seven or eight weeks. For the past five years he has served as co-chair of Sheffield in Celebration and is on the board of the Sheffield Association, its lead sponsor. He is secretary of the new Agricultural Commission, a state-supported committee that helps local farmers. He served on the Economic Development Subcommittee for the Master Plan.

David was born in New Milford, NJ. He graduated from Lakemont Academy in New York in 1954 and then attended Agricultural School at Cornell for one and half years. For 40 years he worked in management in the graphic arts industry. In 1966 he moved to Great Barrington and in 1970 he married Diane West from Sheffield. They settled permanently in Sheffield in 1996, to live near Diane's family. David has five adult children and 10 grandchildren.

From 1996 to 2003 David owned Wildflowers, a florist shop in Great Barrington. After selling that business he worked part time for two years at Sears for his son, David Smith, Jr. He now works part time parking cars at Birches-Roy Funeral Home.

Because he is semi-retired David feels he now has time to give back to the community. "If you want to see things changed, you have to get involved." He feels his background and skills will benefit the Planning Board. David wants "to make Sheffield a destination instead of

a pass-through" and he feels "the town is ready to make some changes." In particular he would like to see more sidewalks, public restrooms, a small visitors' center and more restaurants. Without changing the character of the town, he would like to see more help to local businesses.

Maggie Martin

Margaret (Maggie) Martin is running unopposed for the Planning Board seat she currently holds .

Maggie is an independent consultant for marketing, sales and web development at the Winthrop Estate in Lenox. Born in South Bend, IN, and growing up in New Canaan, CT, Maggie graduated from New Canaan High School in 1972 and attended St. Mary's of Notre Dame and the University of Colorado in Boulder, majoring in sociology. Before moving to Sheffield, she lived in Stamford, CT, where she raised two daughters and a son, now in their 20s and living independently.

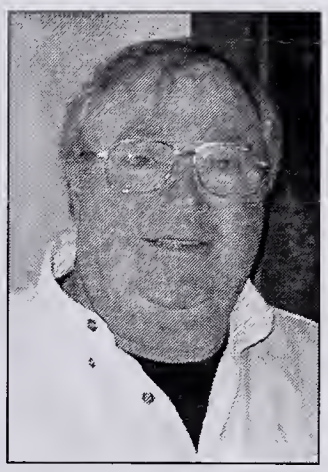
She and her husband, Peter, bought their home on County Rd. in 1998, just one week after their first visit to Sheffield. In July 2005 they moved here full time with their two dogs, Molly and Cody.

Maggie has been an active town volunteer. Her first service was with the Sheffield Senior Center, where she helped devise a database used to track volunteer time and contributions, important information for obtaining grants. In 2006 she became a member of the Master Plan's Implementation Advisory Committee's Affordable Housing Subcommittee. This will be her second term on the Planning Board.

Maggie's hobbies include gardening, photography, swimming, yoga and reading. She enjoys people and likes to learn new things. "If I am elected to the Planning Board I will continue to learn," she says. She is eager to study and understand zoning by-laws and laws of surrounding towns. She wants to help young people stay in Sheffield, and she is concerned about affordable housing. She is enthusiastic about helping to develop "a balance between providing opportunities for young people to live and work in Sheffield and protecting the environmental beauty," a balance she believes will ensure "a healthy thriving community, attractive for all generations."

LIBRARY TRUSTEE
Term: Three years
Seats open: One

David Pottle



David Pottle is running for election as trustee of the Bushnell-Sage Library. His most recent employment was with the Southern Berkshire Educational Collaborative, from 1985 to 2003, with offices in Mt. Everett High School, where he worked with a staff of 18 in the areas of English Literacy and SAT preparation.

He is married to Marsha, who has been a teacher for many years at the New Marlborough Central School, working with a grades 3/4 multi-age class. They have three grown daughters, all of whom live nearby, six grandchildren, two cats, and four horses.

David believes deeply in the work of public libraries, particularly in recession times such as these and is proud that our library has been a leader among small libraries. He thinks we have an excellent librarian and believes it is the responsibility of the trustees to provide her support. "Trustees should not micro-manage," he said.

He is concerned about cuts affecting libraries in the proposed state budget and their impact on small libraries such as ours. He is not sure "if the state's plan of cutting a third of the library's budget will work."

He believes the Town has been cooperative with the Library and wants to do his part to maintain the standards that are so much a part of the Bushnell-Sage Library. He believes the Town needs trustees who can be available all year, and he will serve to the best of his ability.

Susan Young

Susan Young is running for re-election as trustee of the Bushnell-Sage Library, where she has served for 16 years. She has a BA from Vassar and a Masters of Information Science from SUNY Albany. She and her husband, Tom, have lived in Sheffield since 1968 and their sons attended Sheffield Center School. "As a family, we have benefited from living in this community," she says.

She is proud of the way the library has flourished. "In these 16 years the Bushnell-Sage Library has become the cultural centerpiece of the Town," she said. "It's also the leader among the small libraries in South Berkshire in gathering trustees and librarians together to search for ways to help each other."

She speaks favorably of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration, co-sponsored with the Sheffield Historical Society, as an immensely popular event each January. She also points to a growing Southern Berkshire Regional School District Half-Day Program, where the library staff provides activities for district children while their teachers are having an in-service training session. Another key event is the Local Authors Day celebration in November.

She notes that there has been extraordinary support for the Library from town officials, Town meeting, the Friends of the Library and individual Sheffield residents. "Our volunteers have been very generous with their time," she said.

The Library has also solicited helpful relationships with the the Sheffield Land Trust, the Sheffield Historical Society, Tree Project, Sheffield Plastics and a Library Camp in the summer. Susan is also proud of the upgrading/renovation of the landscaping in front of the library, which was planned and completed by "green" businesses and is named "Millie's Garden" in honor of Millie Smith. "To be a trustee of the Library and to help it grow into an impressive and active place is an opportunity to make my own contribution to this lovely town," she said.

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